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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/895,272	06/29/2001	Frans W. Sijstermans	22300-05725	7190

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EXAMINER

MALZAHN, DAVID H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2124

DATE MAILED: 05/25/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/895,272

Applicant(s)

SIJSTERMANS ET AL.

Examiner

David H. Malzahn

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1, 5, 12, 16, 23, 27, 34, 38, 39, 46 and 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by both Sharangpani and Smith.

Both Sharangpani and Smith show both a method and an apparatus for executing a first instruction to set a rounding mode and then executing a second instruction to generate an integer result rounded according to the rounding mode, note the respective abstracts and figures.

3. Claims 1, 4-8, 11, 12, 15-19, 22, 23, 26-30, 33, 34, 37-42, 45, 46, 49-53 and 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Farooqui et al (Farooqui).

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Farooqui shows both a method and an apparatus for executing an instruction to set a rounding mode followed but executing a right-shift with rounding operation instruction which involves adding a rounding term as a function of the rounding mode, the shift amount and the sign of the result to obtain an intermediate result and right-shifting the intermediate result by the shift amount, note the abstract.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 2, 9, 13, 20, 24, 31, 35, 43, 47 and 54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farooqui and Wong (5,917,739).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the rounding technique as taught by Farooqui to the rounding averaging operation of Wong because Wong teaches the need to perform a rounding relative to an averaging operation.

6. Claims 3, 10, 14, 21, 25, 32, 36, 44, 48 and 55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farooqui and Wong (4,953,119).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the rounding technique as taught by Farooqui to the rounding fixed-

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point fractional multiplication operation of Wong because Wong teaches the need to perform a rounding relative to fixed-point fractional multiplication operation.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. Claims 6-22, 28-33, 38, 40-45 and 51-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 6, 17, 28, 40 and 51 are mis-descriptive because the rounding term is not a function of the sign when the operands are unsigned, e.g. note claim 9. The step of claim 7 fails to be clearly related to the sequence of steps of claim 6. Claim 11 is inconsistent with claim 6 because when the operation right-shift then the first step of claim 6 is not performed, note Fig. 13. Similarly note claims 22, 33, 45 and 56. Claims 12 and 17 are mis-descriptive “parsing the software program” doesn’t occur. In claim 38 the phrase “the integer result” lacks clear antecedent basis.

Specification

8. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

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Conclusion

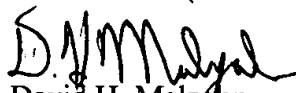
9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David H. Malzahn whose telephone number is (703) 305-9762.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th from 7:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kakali Chaki, can be reached on 703-305-9662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


David H. Malzahn
Primary Examiner
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